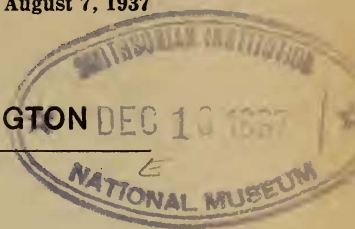


PROCEEDINGS
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DESCRIPTIONS OF TWO NEW PASSERINE BIRDS
FROM THE WESTERN UNITED STATES.

BY HARRY C. OBERHOLSER.

The two new subspecies of birds described below were incidentally discovered in the course of recent identifications of western birds. For the loan of comparative material the writer wishes to thank Dr. Vasco M. Tanner, A. M. Bailey, E. R. Warren, and C. Lynn Hayward.

The jays of the *Cyanocitta stelleri* group inhabiting central and southern Arizona appear to be indistinguishable from *Cyanocitta stelleri diademata* of Mexico. Birds of this species, however, from northern Arizona and apparently all of Utah, seem to differ sufficiently to make desirable their separation subspecifically, and they may accordingly be named:

Cyanocitta stelleri cottami,¹ subsp. nov.

UTAH JAY.

Subspecific characters.—Similar to *Cyanocitta stelleri diademata*, but larger; upper and lower parts decidedly darker, the blue less greenish; light blue streaks on the forehead darker, less whitish, smaller, and less numerous.

Measurements.—Adult male²: wing, 144-160 (average, 150.7) mm.; tail, 129-154 (137.6); exposed culmen, 27-30 (28.8); height of bill at base, 10.5-12 (11); tarsus, 42-45.5 (43.8); middle toe without claw, 20-23.5 (21.6). Adult female³: wing, 140-156 (average, 148.6) mm.; tail, 131-144 (137.8); exposed culmen, 25-31 (27.5); height of bill at base, 10-11.8 (10.6); tarsus, 42-46 (44.1); middle toe without claw, 20-22 (21.3).

Type.—Adult female, No. 139672, U. S. National Museum, Biological Survey collection; Provo, Utah; October 24, 1895; A. H. Howell, original number, 90.

¹ Named for Dr. Clarence Cottam of the U. S. Biological Survey.

² Ten specimens, from Utah, northern Arizona, and northwestern New Mexico.

³ Twelve specimens, from Utah and northwestern New Mexico.

Geographic distribution.—North to northern Utah; west to southwestern Utah (Pine Valley Mountains); south to northern Arizona (Williams); and east to central northern New Mexico (Tres Piedras and Twining), and northeastern Utah (Uinta Mountains).

Remarks.—This new race is similar to *Cyanocitta stelleri annectens*, but differs in somewhat smaller size and lighter coloration, the blue areas being of somewhat more greenish tone, the blue streaks on the forehead paler; and there is a conspicuous white spot or short broad streak above the eye, which is absent in *Cyanocitta stelleri annectens*. The difference in size separating this new form from *Cyanocitta stelleri diademata* may be appreciated by comparison with the following average measurements of adult males of the latter from Arizona and northern Mexico: wing, 143.7 mm.; tail, 132.1; exposed culmen, 27.1; height of bill at base, 11.3; tarsus, 43.7; middle toe without claw, 21.8.

Birds from northwestern New Mexico and central northern New Mexico (Cienequilla, Tres Piedras, Twining, Chama, and Zuni Mountains) are more or less intermediate but are apparently nearer this new race from Utah. Specimens from Williams and Lukachukai Mountains, northern Arizona, are also somewhat intermediate between *Cyanocitta stelleri cottami* and *Cyanocitta stelleri diademata* of central Arizona, but are decidedly nearer the former.

This new jay is dedicated to Dr. Clarence Cottam, of the U. S. Biological Survey, who has done so much to advance our knowledge of Utah birds.

***Pipilo fuscus mesatus*, subsp. nov.**

COLORADO TOWHEE.

Subspecific characters.—Similar to *Pipilo fuscus mesoleucus*, of Arizona, but larger; above decidedly paler, more brownish (less grayish), the pileum particularly paler; sides and flanks also averaging somewhat lighter.

Measurements.—Adult male: wing, 95.5–104 (average, 98.3) mm.; tail, 101–110 (104.3); exposed culmen, 14.2–15.5 (14.9); height of bill at base, 9.8–10.5 (10.2); tarsus, 26–28.5 (27); middle toe without claw, 16.5–18 (17.1). Adult female: wing, 90–97 (average, 93) mm.; tail, 98–108.5 (102.3); exposed culmen, 13.5–15.5 (14.4); height of bill at base, 9.5–10.5 (9.9); tarsus, 25–27.5 (26.4); middle toe without claw, 16.5–18 (17.1).

Type.—Adult female, No. 204013, U. S. National Museum, Biological Survey collection; Gaume's Ranch, altitude 4,600 feet, northwestern corner of Baca County, Colorado; November 27, 1907; Merritt Cary, original number, 290.

Geographic distribution.—Middle and southeastern Colorado, north to south central Colorado (Otero and Pueblo counties), casually to central northern Colorado (Boulder); west to Fremont County; south to central southern Colorado (Westervale in southern Animas County) and southeastern Colorado (Baca County); and east to southeastern Colorado in Baca County and Bent County.

Remarks.—This surprisingly distinct towhee apparently has a rather limited distribution in the southeastern and south central portions of

Colorado, and no specimens have been seen from any other State. It is apparently another example of the differentiation to which certain species are subject in the general region of northwestern Texas, northeastern New Mexico, southeastern Colorado, and northwestern Oklahoma. Specimens of this species from northern New Mexico (Dorsey), Cieneguilla, Rinconada, Rio Puerco, and Hondo Canyon, are, however, all referable to *Pipilo fuscus mesoleucus*, as are also specimens from central New Mexico at localities such as the Manzano, San Andreas, and Capitan Mountains.

A good series of specimens of this new race has been examined, representing the following localities:

Colorado.—Regnier, Baca County (May 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 12, 14, and 17, 1914; Feb. 1, 1915; Mar. 8, 1918); Jimmie Creek, Baca County (May 19, 29, and 31, 1914); Apishapa, Otero County (Nov. 11, 1876); Red Canon (Apr. 13, 1878); Fremont County (Apr. 16, 1872); Pueblo County (Mar. 9, 1875; Mar. 25, 1894; Nov. 20, 1892); Higbee (Apr. 14, 1910); Gaume's Ranch, northwestern Baca County (type, Nov. 27, 1907); Canon City (Sept. 30, 1892); Westervale (Aug. 7 and 8, 1906).